



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
16 May 2003

English
Original: Spanish

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Twelfth session
Vienna, 13-22 May 2003
Agenda item 5

International cooperation in combating transnational crime

Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa and Venezuela: revised draft resolution

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware that the conservation of wild flora and fauna is essential for the maintenance of biological diversity, preservation of the environment and sustainable development,

Recalling the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,¹ and the Convention on Biological Diversity² and action taken to implement those conventions,

Aware of the existence of organized criminal groups operating transnationally that specialize in trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna, and concerned about the adverse environmental, economic and social repercussions of their activities,

Convinced that international cooperation and mutual legal assistance are both essential to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

² See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.



Recalling its resolution 2001/12 of 24 July 2001, in which it urged States to adopt the legislative or other measures necessary for establishing trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna as a criminal offence in their domestic legislation,

Recalling also its resolution 2002/18 of 24 July 2002, in which it urged all Member States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and other competent entities of the United Nations system so that the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of its resolution 2001/12 might be finalized,

Taking note of the replies received from Member States concerning their national legislation and practical experience in the area of trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna contained in the report of the Secretary-General,³

1. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the report of the Secretary-General on trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna and illicit access to genetic resources;³

2. *Urges* all Member States to cooperate, as appropriate, with the Secretary-General and competent entities of the United Nations system, in particular the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime⁴ of the Secretariat, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna;

3. *Urges* Member States to adopt preventive measures, where necessary, as well as to review their criminal legislation with a view to ensuring that offences relating to trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna are punishable by appropriate penalties that take into account the serious nature of those offences;

4. *Encourages* Member States to undertake awareness-raising activities to improve understanding of the serious impact of trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to promote international cooperation as well as the conclusion of mutual legal assistance agreements, as appropriate, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

³ E/CN.15/2003/8 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

⁴ Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.